striving to enhance and balance the trade at higher levels. A series of steps have been initiated to increase the volume of bilateral trade which include diversification and expansion of the trade basket by increasing the provisions for existing items and by adding new items, expansion of areas of mutual cooperation in such fields as railways, electronics, petroleum, Civil Aviation, etc., and encouraging new of cooperaton like joint ventures production cooperation, cooperation in services sector, etc.

Public Participation in Environmental Management

891. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to seek public participation in environmental management and in management of ecological balance;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to educate the public with regard to environment and nature?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps taken are (i) organisation of Eco-Development Camps for youth (ii) involvement of voluntary organisations in ecological restoration, Ganga Action Plan and Wasteland Development (iii) inclusion of non-official experts and representatives of voluntary organisations in the departmental Committees and advisory boards.

(c) Assistance is given to a number of non-governmental organisations for promoting environmental education and awareness through seminars/workshops, training programmes, essay and painting competitions, nature study tours and eco-clubs in schools and colleges. The National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi and the Centre for Environment Education, Ahmedabad assist in public education.

Rise in Export of Sea Fish and Other Marine Products

892. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:
DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had envisaged a major rise in export of sea fish and other marine products during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, what has been the performance in 1984-85 and the details of incentives offered, if any, to enhance such exports;

(c) how does India's export performance of sea fish and other marine products compare with the target (quantity and valuewise) upto the 30th September, 1988;

(d) what have been the major bottlenecks experienced during the period in achieving higher export performance: and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to develop the fishing industry considering the marine product exports as a thrust item?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1984-85, export of marine products was of the order of Rs. 384 crores. Incentives being given to marine products exporters to enhance the exports include import replenishment, cash compensatory, Support and subsidy assistance for modernisation of sea food processing industry.

(c) Export performance of marine products for the current financial year